Clinical and other Notes

On May 5 his temperature had fallen to normal. On May 6 I gave him another dose of 500 million, and repeated this on May 8.

At this time he was getting up. He still had a drainage tube through his shoulder-joint but the discharge had very much decreased in quantity. He had no further rise of temperature, and made an uninterrupted recovery.

I am indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel E. M. Pilcher, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., for the free hand he gave me in the treatment of the case, and for permission to publish it.

A CASE OF UNUNITED FRACTURE OF THE TIBIA AND FIBULA.

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PRIVATE L., 4th Rifle Brigade, was admitted to the Station Hospital, Ambala, from Dagshai, where in July, 1914, he sustained a fracture of the tibia and fibula. He was treated with splints and plaster, but fell and injured his leg again while going about on crutches. In spite of rest in splints, massage, etc., the tibia remained ununited. On admission to Ambala in December there was very little union of the bones, and plating was decided on. A Lane's plate was applied on January 15 to the tibia, after freshening the ends of the bone and correcting the slight existing deformity. The wound healed by first intention and the leg was put in a Stimpson's plaster three weeks later. Union was firm by the end of February, and it was decided to remove the plate, as being subcutaneous it might have led to trouble afterwards. This was done in the beginning of March, and at the same time the tendo Achillis was tenotomized and passive movement done for stiffness of the ankle. By the middle of March the patient was walking with the aid of a stick and he was sent home at the end of March as his unit had already gone on service. When he left Ambala there was only the slightest limp due to some little stiffness in the ankle which was rapidly disappearing.

Two skiagrams show the result of treatment. They are taken from the front. Other lateral views taken also show the bones to be in perfect position.

The fibula was not touched as it was not thought necessary, and this was borne out by the subsequent result.